

be Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada is recognized.

ROUTE 91 HARVEST FESTIVAL SHOOTING
ANNIVERSARY

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO. Mr. President, this is a difficult anniversary for people in Nevada and across the country. Tomorrow marks 4 years since the Route 91 Harvest Festival attack. And on that day 4 years ago, thousands attended a concert on a late summer night in my hometown of Las Vegas. They were at the festival to enjoy an evening with friends and loved ones.

Fifty-eight of them never made it home. I will never forget waiting with families at the Reunification Center in Las Vegas, where they braced themselves for the worst possible news.

Two more people have died of their wounds since the attack. Over 800 people were injured in the shooting and in the chaos that followed, as people fled for safety. And countless members of our community are still dealing with the emotional scars left by the violence of that night.

For those hundreds of concertgoers and for their loved ones, 1 October is a lingering presence—one that can return in a rush at the faintest reminder, like the sound of sirens or fireworks.

The day remains the deadliest mass shooting in modern American history.

While a nightmare unfolded around them, hundreds of people sprang into action to save lives, even at the risk of their own. Brave first responders rushed to the scene to direct people to safety and transport the wounded. Healthcare workers jumped into action. Ordinary Nevadans stood in line for hours in the days after the shooting to give blood to those in need. And businesses all over the State and country provided every imaginable support, from food to blankets, to airline tickets.

I think about that contrast every time I think of October 1, 2017, between the darkness of the circumstances and the light of our community coming together in the aftermath. In the midst of terror and heartbreak, a whole city, a State, a country of people showed up to help one another. And I am so proud of Nevadans, whose first response to tragedy was to help their community heal these painful wounds.

On that horrible night and the days after, every selfless act, large or small, made a difference. From bystanders who turned their pickup trucks into ambulances, to the thousands of Nevadans who put “Vegas Strong” signs in their windows to show survivors that they weren’t alone, Nevadans came together to help.

Now, we cannot undo the terrible actions or tragic events, but we can always do something to lessen the weight of these events. And even though years have passed, we still owe it to everyone touched by this tragedy to continue moving through our grief toward healing, and there is still so much that we can do.

Every time we reminisce about those we have lost, we help their loved ones keep the memories alive. With every donation to the memorial scholarships, we honor those affected by the shooting. We help survivors deal with the impact of this tragedy when we talk about the mental health toll that the shooting has taken and when we work to decrease the stigma around mental health issues.

I have consistently worked to expand treatment options for mental health and substance use issues, and I will keep pushing in the Senate to support life-changing care for those facing mental health challenges.

We make it better when we advocate for commonsense laws to prevent gun violence as well, like the ones we have passed in Nevada.

It is unbelievable that I am standing here on the Senate floor 4 years after I first spoke about this tragedy and that we still have not been able to pass background checks and commonsense gun safety measures.

The majority of Americans are with us. We need to act because Las Vegas deserves it and so do communities all across the Nation. We cannot continue to stand by as mass attacks and shootings take a tragic toll all over the United States.

To the people of Las Vegas who continue to grapple with the pain we experienced on that day, know that I am with you. We will continue to work to create a permanent memorial at the site of the shooting to be a tangible reminder of what we know; that even in the darkest times—especially in the darkest times—we can come together to help one another and we can make a difference.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

NOMINATION OF TRACY STONE-MANNING

Mr. ROMNEY. Mr. President, from Utah’s red rock canyons to our alpine meadows, from the sprawling salt flats to the towering mountain peaks, it is hard to overstate the beauty of Utah’s majestic landscapes.

So much about being a Utahn is our connection to and care for our land. These values have been engrained in our culture since the pioneers found refuge here in 1847. We take great pride in the fact that folks from all over the country and all over the world travel to our State to experience these rich and diverse landscapes.

Utah has nearly the highest percentage of its land owned by the Federal Government—nearly two-thirds of our 52 million acres. And of that Federal land, more than 23 million acres is managed by the Bureau of Land Management.

This land has been cared for and used by Utahns for generations—recreationists and sportsmen who take advantage of the access to hike, hunt, mountain bike, ATV, and camp; the ranchers who graze their livestock to provide our food and fiber; the commu-

nities that rely on the oil and gas development in the Basin or the coal mines and powerplants to provide more than 70 percent of our electricity; individuals interested in exploring the cultural anthropology of our land; and simply the residents who look to our open spaces for solitude.

Utahns deserve and demand that our public lands be managed by someone they can trust. It is quite obvious that the President’s nominee for the Director of Bureau of Land Management, Tracy Stone-Manning, is not worthy of our trust.

Ms. Stone-Manning’s history of aiding ecoterrorism is extremely troubling and alone should be disqualifying for the position to which she has been nominated. It would be like nominating Bernie Madoff to serve as Treasury Secretary.

For those who aren’t familiar with tree spiking—an action with which Ms. Stone-Manning has been associated—let me offer a brief synopsis. Tree spiking involves hammering a metal or ceramic rod into a tree trunk. Loggers could be seriously harmed or even killed when they cut into the trunk of a tree that has been spiked. And the same goes for sawmill operators who are processing the log in the mill. Ecoterrorists who engage in tree spiking are willing to cause the gruesome injury or death of hard-working Americans who are simply trying to provide for their families.

But it is not only her efforts assisting ecoterrorists that are of concern. Ms. Stone-Manning’s blatant dishonesty about being investigated over a tree-spiking incident to the Senate should disqualify her serving as BLM Director.

I take my constitutional duty to provide advice and consent with regard to Presidential nominees very seriously, as we all do. And with limited exception, I believe Presidents, regardless of party, should be able to put into place qualified individuals to lead their team. I have supported several of President Biden’s nominees even though I have disagreed with them on particular policy issues because I believe they were basically qualified for the position to which they had been nominated.

Simply put, however, Tracy Stone-Manning’s past involvement in ecoterrorism and her attempt to conceal that participation before the Senate make her unfit to serve as Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

I will be opposing her nomination and urge my Democratic friends—especially those who represent States with large amounts of Federal land—to oppose her nomination as well.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

Mr. LEE. Mr. President, back in 1987, a 23-year-old mill worker named George Alexander struck a tree spike—a tree spike like this one—in the log that he was processing. His sawblade shattered, and it caused a wound

stretching from his eye all the way down to his chin. His teeth were smashed, and his jaw was brutally dashed in half. The incident made national news.

Just 2 years later, Tracy Stone-Manning rented a typewriter to disguise her identity. She then typed and sent a letter to the U.S. Forest Service on behalf of an ecoterrorist group. She conspired to spike trees with spikes just like this one—hundreds and hundreds of pounds of spikes just like this one. In so doing, endangered the lives of foresters, of loggers, and of firefighters. She ended the letter with the following words:

You bastards go in there anyway and a lot of people could get hurt.

Unfortunately, it wasn't until after her nomination hearing that we learned of her work with the ecoterrorist organization EarthFirst!. It wasn't until after her hearing that we learned that she had been issued a target letter by a Federal grand jury and had hired an attorney to negotiate an immunity deal prior to testifying in the tree-spiking case.

It wasn't until after her hearing that we read her words in a newspaper saying that she "could have been charged with conspiracy were it not for her agreement with the U.S. attorney." It wasn't until after her hearing that we learned that she was compelled by that same Federal grand jury to submit fingerprints, writing samples, and hair samples.

Now, beyond her involvement with the ecoterrorist group, since her hearing, we learned of public statements she made just months ago calling for homes to burn in forest fires. We learned of statements she made saying grazing is destroying the West and calling for population control measures and even labeling children as environmental hazards.

After all of this, a White House official called her nomination a "massive vetting failure." It was that, but it is so much worse than that. She was and is a radical. She supported a criminal conspiracy to engage in ecoterrorism.

Our committee asked her if she had ever been the subject of a criminal investigation. She, in a sworn statement, lied. Our committee never had the opportunity to ask her about these shameful acts. Her past actions, her positions, her statements, and her goals would each, individually, disqualify her from service. But combined, they make her a, frankly, offensive candidate to the countless people in Utah and throughout the West and beyond who rely on Bureau of Land Management cooperation for their livelihoods and for their way of life.

Now, inexplicably, President Biden has not withdrawn this nomination, though Ms. Stone-Manning has seemingly gone into hiding. She has left unanswered dozens of questions formally posed to her by me and by my colleagues. If confirmed, she will lack the credibility with constituents through-

out the Nation that she would otherwise need to perform this job. She just won't have it. And any accomplishments made by the Biden administration to steward our lands will be overshadowed by her specter of deceit.

The Bureau of Land Management controls 42 percent of the land in Utah. In fact, the BLM controls more land in Utah than Utahns do—a lot more.

So I speak for a lot of people back home today, people who are insulted by President Biden's nomination of Tracy Stone-Manning to run the Bureau of Land Management. Her confirmation would be bad for Utah, bad for the Bureau of Land Management, and bad for honesty and accountability in government.

Needless to say, she will not receive my vote. It defies logic, reason, and the greatest traditions of this body to think that we would confirm her today. I urge my colleagues to reject this nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada.

ROUTE 91 HARVEST FESTIVAL SHOOTING ANNIVERSARY

Ms. ROSEN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the memories of the lives that were lost in Las Vegas on October 1, 2017. Four years ago tomorrow, the Las Vegas community experienced tragedy on an unprecedented scale.

Tens of thousands of people gathered that night for a country music festival. They were there to have fun, to dance, and to enjoy a concert with family and friends. That night, the fun quickly turned to terror when gunfire erupted, taking 60 innocent souls and injuring hundreds and hundreds more. In just 10 minutes—10 minutes—dozens of lives were cut short and so many more were forever changed.

These victims were friends and family, brothers and sisters, parents and children, and that night, they were taken from us. The people that survived and the loved ones that didn't are still grieving, still feeling that loss with every passing holiday, every passing birthday, every single day their lives are forever changed.

Nevada will always feel that loss too. This was the worst mass shooting in American history, and it happened in our State.

But I know our community is strong. We are resilient, and in our darkest hour—and in the days and weeks and months and now even years after—we remain united. We remain Vegas Strong.

We are united in our grief for those we lost but also in our admiration for those who helped save lives and support others that night: heroic law enforcement officers and first responders, everyday citizens who ran toward the danger—they ran toward the danger to help others—and countless Nevadans who waited in line to donate blood and help people who were displaced in the chaotic aftermath of the shooting.

As we reflect on the 4 years since this horrific event, I stand here today—I

stand here today to honor the heroes who put themselves in harm's way to save others. I stand here today to honor those who were injured physically, psychologically, and emotionally, especially those who are still fighting to recover. Know that we are with you now and always. And I stand here today to honor those who lost their lives. They will never ever be forgotten. May their memories be a blessing. And in their memory, we are resilient. In their honor, we are strong. We are Vegas Strong.

I thank the Presiding Officer.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Idaho.

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, first of all, I ask permission to use an item to demonstrate in the speech that I am going to give, please.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

NOMINATION OF TRACY STONE-MANNING

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, fellow Senators, and the American public, I rise today to underscore a travesty that is about to take place here in about an hour on the floor of the U.S. Senate. I am talking about the BLM matter, the Bureau of Land Management matter, the nominee the President of the United States has made to run the Bureau of Land Management as the Director of the Bureau of Land Management. That person is Tracy Stone-Manning.

I think the facts have pretty well been laid out already in the media. At the same time, there is tremendous outrage, I can tell you, amongst not only BLM employees but among the people who earn their living and recreate on the millions of acres of BLM. It is incredible, it is astonishing, and it is an embarrassment for this administration to nominate a person who is an ecoterrorist and a person who has perjured themselves before the committee that she appeared before on her confirmation and, in addition to that, has espoused a "let it burn" philosophy for people's homes that she will take an oath to defend if she becomes head of the BLM, which I believe she is going to before the Sun goes down today.

It is amazing to me that the administration would put this person in this position. There are 330 million people in America. Almost every single one of those people, including some high school kids, could do this substantially better than she could and would not tarnish the name of the BLM, which is going to happen when she is confirmed as the Director of the BLM.

So what did she do? Well, she engaged in acts of ecoterrorism. She engaged in a conspiracy to kill other people. She engaged in acts with Earth First! that put her squarely in the target of the U.S. Government, along with her cohorts with whom she lived in a house in Montana at the time. But she got off the hook. She didn't get prosecuted because she turned on the others and turned state's evidence. She hired an attorney, and that attorney